## State of South Caroling Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, asthma affects approximately 20 million people throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, asthma is a leading cause of childhood hospitalizations, long-term illness and school absenteeism, accounting for more than 14 million missed school days each year; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 280,000 South Carolinians suffer from asthma and one-third of all emergency room visits by children in the Palmetto State are due to asthma; and

WHEREAS, the annual observance of Asthma Awareness Day provides an opportunity to work together to reduce the asthma mortality rate and improve the quality of life of those living with asthma.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2004, as

## ASTHMA AWARENESS DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to learn more about asthma for the continued health and well-being of our residents.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CAROLINA OF THE CAROLINA

Me Sys

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA